

COUNTY NEWS

One of our county secretaries has sent out the following call for a meeting. It is published at the head of this column because it might well be applied to every society and every individual member:

"Organized Medicine represents the backbone of the ethical medical profession.

Our County medical societies constitute the backbone of organized medicine.

Each Member of the county societies should help to constitute the backbone of his society.

The member whose interest is lacking in the welfare of his society is not protecting his own interests, nor is he showing the proper attitude toward the profession to which he belongs.

A Chain is Only as Strong as Its Weakest Link

Each member of our society represents a link in this professional chain. Let us make the Stanislaus County Medical Society "the strongest," even if not the longest, chain in California.

We Can Do It, If You and I Do Our Part

The greatest evidence of willingness is attendance.

Let the man who expects organized medicine to protect him in time of need contribute to the life of his society, by his attendance.

Let us make the following year the best year our society has yet enjoyed.

We Can Do It—With Your Help

Last year brought several excellent men to us with valuable papers. The programs for the ensuing year will be even better.

A Definite Resolution

'I will attend every meeting of my society this year'—will do it."

BUTTE COUNTY

Butte County Medical Society (reported by J. O. Chiapella, secretary)—The society met on September 20 at the office of Dr. Chiapella, with the following members present: Baumeister, Browning, Hamilton, Schell, Stansbury, Gatchell, Moulton, Johnson, Poole, Enloe, Chiapella. The meeting was for the purpose of an address by N. T. Enloe on his proposed new \$750,000 hospital and to give the physicians of Chico and vicinity an opportunity to endorse the project. Following Enloe's clear and logical expression of his ideas, a motion to fully endorse his project met with unanimous approval of the society.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Contra Costa County Medical Society (reported by L. St. John Hely, secretary)—The Contra Costa County Medical Society met in regular monthly session September 29 at the residence of J. T. Breneman at El Cerrito.

Discussions were held in reference to educating the general public in regard to scientific medicine. The subject was introduced by Hely, stating that the public were not to be blamed for patronizing the cults, as they did not know the difference between scientific medicine and quacks and had no way of knowing, it being brought out that students in the grammar school and the high schools were not even studying common school physiology at the present time. This used to be the sheet anchor of the layman, but, as stated, the man growing up at present knows little about the human or animal body and, of course, has no way to judge. It was suggested that speakers should be lecturing regularly in the churches and in the schools. Emmett Rixford led the discussion.

The paper of the evening—we may say the lecture—was given by Emmett Rixford, and to say that it was a lecture and a complete one would be to state it mildly. The doctor brought out many essential points in the operation of gastric ulcer that makes between success and failure. His wide experience has made his lectures very valuable, and the society wishes to have him lecture again in the future, and is very grateful to him for making the trip. The following members were present and enjoyed the hospitality of Breneman:

U. S. Abbott, C. R. Blake, George M. Bumgarner, John Beard, J. T. Breneman, P. C. Campbell, F. S. Cook, H. L. Carpenter, W. E. Cunningham, C. L. Gregory, L. St. John Hely, Denninger-Keser, E. C. Love, W. S. Lucas, J. B. Spalding, Clara Spalding, S. H. Marks, Hall Vestal, Lloyd A. Clary, C. L. Ianne, T. Lisle Horne, J. Emmett Clark; Miss Agnes Driscoll, Miss Yaub, Cottage Hospital, Richmond; Mrs. Elizabeth Redmond, R. N.

MERCED COUNTY

Merced County Society (reported by Brett Davis, secretary Merced County Medical Society)—The medical society has not held any meetings during the summer.

Mercy Hospital—The new community hospital at Merced is just about completed, and equipment is arriving. It should be in operation very soon.

MONTEREY COUNTY

Monterey County Medical Society (reported by T. C. Edwards, secretary)—The society met on October 5 at El Adobe Hospital, Monterey. There was no regular program, and the evening was spent discussing matters of general interest.

A resolution was passed instructing the secretary to give the local newspapers a copy of the resolutions passed by the A. M. A., calling attention to the unethical conduct of members of the profession prescribing alcohol illegally, and urging county societies to discipline members who are thus debauching their profession.

D. Brumwell, who has been at Indio looking after his date interests, has returned to his home in King City.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

San Bernardino County Medical Society (reported by E. J. Eytinge, secretary)—The society met on October 2 at the County Hospital, with thirty-seven members present, forty-three absent, and twenty guests. Dinner was served.

The program consisted of an address by the retiring president, Frank Folkins, on "Roentgenological Impressions of an Eastern Trip," and a paper by E. H. Hummell on "Eye Symptoms in Neurologic Practice."

The following officers have been elected for this year: President, J. H. Evans, Highland; first vice-president, E. L. Tisinger, San Bernardino; second vice-president, A. T. Gage, Redlands; secretary-treasurer, E. J. Eytinge, Redlands.

H. W. Vollmer of Loma Linda was transferred to Los Angeles County and J. S. Reekie of Ontario was transferred to Riverside County.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

San Diego County Society (reported by Robert Pollock)—During September the county society enjoyed three clinical programs—one at each of the staff hospitals, San Diego County General, St. Joseph's, and Paradise Valley. In each case members of the hospital staff presented and discussed some very interesting clinical material. The program at the County General included (1) a group of children presented by Thornton, (2) a fracture of the twelfth dorsal vertebra without nerve injury pre-

sented by Harding, (3) a right hemiplegia following a fractured skull presented by Little, and two extensive superficial carcinomas presented by Wicherski. The clinical night at St. Joseph's Hospital developed into a symposium on anesthesia participated in by a large number of the staff. The evening spent at Paradise Valley Sanitarium commenced with an excellent dinner, served by the management, which was followed by a tour of the new 100-bed addition to the hospital, after which the following program was presented: (1) Case of Madura foot presented by Warren of the staff; (2) Case of atrophic arthritis presented by Falkner; (3) Case of chronic endarteritis obliterans presented by Butterfield. These cases were liberally discussed by members of the society present.

October 9, in the society's regular meeting place, Science Hall, B. J. O'Neill gave a talk on his observations of the European surgical clinics visited by him.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

San Francisco County Medical Society (reported by J. H. Woolsey, secretary)—During the month of September, 1923, the following meetings were held:

Tuesday, September 11—General Meeting. (1) The California Pandemics of the 1820s and 1830s, Edward W. Twitchell; (2) Shakespeare as an idealist in the practice of medicine, C. H. Arnold; (3) Some phases of medical history, W. C. Alvarez.

Tuesday, September 18—Committee on Surgery. (1) Mistakes in general surgery, A. S. Keenan; (2) Tuberculous peritonitis, A. J. Lartigau; (3) A device for temporary control of certain intestinal fistulae, Francis Williams.

Tuesday, September 25—Committee on Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat. (1) Demonstration of cases; (2) Discussion of lateral sinus thrombosis with report of cases, Arthur Collis Gibson; (3) Report of cases of marked visual defects in drivers of automobiles. Discussion tending toward proper legislation, Walter Scott Franklin.

University of California Medical Society Meeting (reported by William J. Kerr, secretary)—At the September meeting of the University of California Medical Society three papers were presented. E. L. Bruck, L. W. Skelton, C. M. Pearce presented a case of coccidioides and discussed the differential diagnosis of this condition from other granulomata. It was shown that the disease is almost entirely limited to the valley regions of California, and that the diagnosis is usually easily made from an examination of the discharges from the sinuses or wherever exudate may be obtained. The high mortality was emphasized, and the need of more specific therapeutic measures was suggested. The patient under discussion was shown to be greatly improved after the use of vaccine prepared from the organism.

W. C. Alvarez gave a lantern-slide demonstration of illustrations from medical history showing the progress of various branches of medicine.

E. L. Walker discussed the chemotherapy of bacterial infection, emphasizing the great value of chemotherapy, especially in the protozoan diseases, and spoke of the progress that had been made in developing chemical substances for the control of bacterial infections. He mentioned the brilliant results that had been obtained by certain chemicals in the destruction of bacteria in the test-tube which have not been attended with great success when applied clinically, but felt that by approaching the problem from the standpoint of organic chemistry, by the preparation of a large number of chemical substances of non-bactericidal properties certain suggestions would be obtained for further investigation.

The November meeting of the society will be held on Thursday, November 22, at 8 p. m., in Toland Hall, in the University of California Hospital. The medical profession is invited to attend.

St. Luke's Hospital Clinical Club Meeting—St.

Luke's Hospital Clinical Club resumed its regular meetings after the summer vacation on Tuesday, October 2, with a paper and case report by J. Marion Read on Roentgen-Ray Therapy in Thyrotoxicosis—Its value as measured by the basal metabolic rate. Read reported fifty cases which had been under observation in St. Luke's Hospital, showing charts and lantern-slides. He compared the result following X-ray therapy, surgery, and expectant treatment.

These meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the assembly room of the Clinic building, following a buffet luncheon. Subjects for subsequent meetings are:

November 6—Blood Transfusion.

November 20—Deep Therapy and X-Ray.

December 4—Cardiac Neuroses.

December 18—Discussion of Pan-Sinusitis and Suggestions for Treatment.

San Francisco doctors and out-of-town men interested in graduate work will be welcome at any of the Clinical Club meetings.

Mount Zion Hospital Notes (from surgical service of C. G. Levison)—Incision for appendectomy in relation to the most marked area of tenderness. During the past two months there have been several cases of appendicitis with a noteworthy sign—pain and tenderness in the right lower quadrant, but the most marked area of tenderness at, or just above, the umbilicus. This was taken into consideration in each case, and a right rectus incision made with its midpoint at the level of the umbilicus, corresponding to the most marked area of tenderness. In all cases the appendix was found high up in the abdomen at about the level of the umbilicus, and the operation was carried out with comparative ease as to what it might have been if the usual low right rectus incision had been made. Levison has previously called attention to the advantage of making the incision for appendectomy correspond to the area of greatest tenderness, in an article appearing in the *Journal of the A. M. A.*, July 21, 1908, entitled "Lumbar Appendectomy."

St. Joseph's Hospital Staff Meetings—The staff of St. Joseph's Hospital held an interesting meeting on October 10. Harold Wright of the Section on Neuropsychiatry spoke on "Neurocirculatory Asthenia," and Paul Castelhun on "Modern Treatment of Appendicitis." Alex Keenan opened the discussion on the similarity of the first subject with functional heart disease and the advantages of the Och-sner treatment. Cases were presented by Sherman Tuttle (appendicitis, with hemorrhagic complication and cholelithiasis), A. S. Musante (carcinoma of the uterus and bowels), H. A. Deering and C. E. Smith (cholecho-lithiasis and cholemia).

The program announced for November 14 includes "Survey of Our Hospital Records, Picked at Random," by Dr. William Quinn; and "Value of Private Case Records; Types," by Philip King Brown.

SAN MATEO COUNTY

San Mateo County Medical Society (reported by William Otis Callaway, secretary)—The society met on September 26 at the Mills Memorial Hospital, San Mateo, with sixteen members present, seven absent, two visitors, and two new members. The program consisted of a talk with radiograms on "X-ray and Appendicitis (Chronic)," by M. P. Burnham of San Francisco, followed by discussion by members of the society.

J. G. Null, Redwood City, and M. D. Lessard, South San Francisco, were admitted to membership.

San Mateo County Community Hospital at Beresford was opened September 10. The new hospital is constructed to accommodate one hundred or more beds, and additional facilities will be added as needed, under present plans. Wood C. Baker of San Mateo is medical superintendent of the hospital. The old County Farm will be operated solely for

those needing a home, and all patients have been removed to the new institution.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Santa Barbara County Medical Society (reported by A. C. Soper Jr., secretary)—The meeting of October 8 was called to order at 8:15 p. m. at Cottage Hospital, President Means in the chair. There were present fourteen members, three internes, Varick of Manchester, N. H.; and Carl W. Rand of Los Angeles.

A case of molluscum epitheliale was exhibited by Luton and Ullman; eighteen year old girl, lesions existed since early childhood; improving under sulphur ointment and occasional fulguration.

Carl W. Rand of Los Angeles presented the topic of "Some Phases of Spinal Cord Tumors," illustrated with charts of nerve symptoms, X-ray pictures, and pathological slides—all by lantern-slides. Ten cases were described. Discussion participated in by Robinson, Hotchkiss, Stevens, Rexwald Brown, Ullman, and Nuzum.

Correspondence from A. M. A., State Headquarters, Cottage Hospital, National Tuberculosis Association, California Tuberculosis Association, Gorgas Memorial Fund, Surgical Film Co., Lowy Medical Film Corporation, and various individuals was read.

Rexwald Brown introduced a discussion of the subject of the City Health Department, and moved that:

"The City Manager be urged to secure at once, in conformity with the City Charter, a trained sanitarian at an adequate salary, as head of the City Health Office, that the department may be reorganized to function in conformity with the needs of the city."

This was seconded by Ullman, and after discussion passed unanimously.

New St. Francis Hospital Occupied—The patients housed in the old St. Francis Hospital, Santa Barbara, have been transferred to the new building recently completed and which has been under construction for months. The Rev. Father William Clark, chaplain of the hospital, and Father Joseph Rhode, vice-provincial of the old Mission, officiated at the opening ceremonies held on September 11, although the official dedication of the building will not take place until January. The new hospital contains more than sixty-five rooms, and in an emergency can care for more than one hundred patients, it is stated.

SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County Medical Society (reported by N. Juell, secretary)—The society met at Santa Rosa, October 11, with thirteen members present, twenty-two absent, and two visitors. The program consisted in a report of a case, by Marguerite J. Fulmer of Santa Rosa, of chronic diarrhoea in a child, caused by intolerance of starch and fat, and relieved by exclusive protein diet. A discussion of pituitary diseases and tumors, with presentation of cases of acromegaly; pituitary tumor causing nasal and gustatory hallucinations, and a case of Froelich's syndrome, tumor, eye lesions, X-ray plates, operative procedure, and end results was given by Clement H. Arnold of San Francisco.

Councilor McLeod reported the action of the council at its recent meeting regarding medical and indemnity defense, as well as proposed extension courses.

A memorial tribute to the late Jackson Temple was read, and is published in another part of the Journal.

STANISLAUS COUNTY

Stanislaus County Medical Society (reported by R. E. Maxwell, secretary)—The society met on October 12, at Hotel Modesto, beginning with dinner. The meeting was called to order by Presi-

dent McPheeters. Members present: B. F. Surrhyne, Carl B. Benson, F. R. McKibbin, J. R. Hosmer, J. K. Morris, J. L. Hennemuth, J. C. Robertson, Walter Smith, L. D. Mottram, John A. Cooper, C. E. Finney, E. R. McPheeters, E. F. Reamer, Hugh Smith, J. W. Morgan, E. V. Falk, G. Chipman, R. E. Maxwell. Visitors: Didier of Crows Landing, Edwin I. Bartlett of San Francisco.

Miss Myrtle Gray, city school nurse, addressed the society, with a report of her work accomplished in the past two years. She asked for suggestions from and co-operation with the Modesto physicians.

Frank Holtham, city sanitary inspector of Modesto, appeared before the society, asking that a committee of five physicians be selected and appointed to act as a medical milk commission, in order that dairies who desired to meet the requirements thereof might have the distinction of marketing "certified milk." President McPheeters stated that he would appoint such a committee in the near future. Holtham filed a copy of "Spreading the Gospel of Clean, Raw Milk," with the secretary for reference.

E. V. Falk presented a case report of a fracture at lower extremity of humerus that resulted in a status of myositis ossificans. X-rays of the case were displayed.

E. F. Reamer reported that the Modesto Chamber of Commerce did not make any contribution to aid in paying for the A. M. A. convention program booklet advertising Stanislaus County.

R. W. Brace, formerly of Ripon but now residing in San Diego, was granted a transfer from this society.

Edwin I. Bartlett of the University of California addressed the society on "Aspects of Cancer of the Breast," supplemented by lantern-slides. Bartlett's address was practical and interesting and free from theoretical technicalities, and a vote of thanks was extended him.

Treatment of Encephalitis—For more than two years Ross Moore, Los Angeles (Journal A. M. A., September 15, 1923), has been treating certain patients showing symptom groups referable to basal ganglions by injecting intraspinally their own blood serum, either straight or inactivated. Twelve or fifteen cases of chronic paralysis agitans have been treated by this method. In more than half these cases, improvement occurred, temporary in nature, but of a quality different from that seen in the course of other treatment. This improvement has been usually in the nature of muscular relaxation. Relief from tremor has not been marked. All patients having a well-developed tremor of long standing continued to have it even though very great muscular relaxation was secured. There were several cases of very acute encephalitis in which the progress was apparently uninfluenced by the injections. There appeared to be overwhelming infection, as if the protective mechanism of the body was not functioning. Rosenow's experimental antiencephalitis serum was used in half a dozen cases. In four cases it was given intravenously twenty-four hours before blood was taken for intraspinal use. In the other two it was given intraspinally. Although results were negative, the efficacy of the serum is not disproved thereby, because the cases treated were very extreme ones. In the present state of our knowledge we are unable to say just when nerve cells that are being attacked by infectious disease or toxic processes die. They may be poisoned and inactive functionally a long time before they actually die. If they are inactive functionally, their inactivity will give rise to the same symptoms as their later death. Functional inactivity anywhere in the body is amenable to treatment. Therapeutic effort in the immediate future should be along two lines: (a) an increase in the antitoxic qualities of the blood serum used for injection, and (b) application of the serum more directly to the seat of the trouble.